

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ARA-10 EA-10
NEA-11 ACDA-12 HA-05 MCT-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /124 R

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APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
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-----003666 030150Z /70

O 030055Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112310

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY - GENEVA FOR MAYNES AND BARRY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT:NAMIBIA: POSSIBLE CONTACT GROUP REPLY TO SOUTH
AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL
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REF: A) USUN 1753; B) STATE 107337

1. DEPARTMENT'S INITIAL REACTION TO SOUTH AFRICAN
STATEMENTS ACCEPTING CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL (REF B)
WAS THAT WE SHOULD MAKE LOW-KEY APPROACH TO SAG EXPRESSING
SATISFACTION WITH SAG'S DECISION AND CALLING ATTENTION

TO WHAT THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE SAID IN HIS APRIL 26
UNGA SPEECH REGARDING OUR CLARIFICATIONS.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO CONCERNS EXPRESSED REF A, WHILE
WE AGREE THAT SAG'S STATEMENTS WERE NOT HELPFUL,
WE ALSO WISH TO AVOID EXCESSIVE NUMEER OF ADMONITIE.
TO SAG REGARDING ITS HANDLING OF THENAMIBIAN ISSUE.
DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT IT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR SAG TO
REFRAIN FROM PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE UNHELPFUL
IN OUR EFFORT TO OBTAIN SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE
PROPOSAL. WE HAVE MADE THIS POINT TO SAG BILATERALLY
(STATE 109557) AND WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO JOIN IN A

CONTACT GROUP APPROACH TO SAG WHICH INCLUDED THIS POINT.
WE ALSO FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT CONTACT GROUP HAS A MAJOR
INTEREST IN KEEPING SAG GENERALLY AWARE OF WHAT WE ARE
DOING IN NEW YORK AS FAR AS OUR PROPOSAL IS CONCERNED.
SPECIFICALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD INFORM SAG AS
SOON AS ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FOR FURTHER TALKS WITH
NUJOMA AND HIS COLLEAGUES FROM LUSAKA.

3. AS NOTED IN DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO EMBASSY
CAPE TOWN'S SUGGESTION REGARDING INITIATIVE TO SECURE
RELEASE OF SHIPANGA AND TOIVO, WE WOULD SUPPORT
INCLUSION IN SUCH AN APPROACH OF A STATEMENT SUGGESTING
THAT THE COMMON INTEREST OF SECURING SECURITY COUNCIL
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APPROVAL OF OUR PROPOSAL WOULD BE ADVANCED BY ANY
ACTIONS TAKEN BY SAG AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL STEYN
WHICH WOULD DEMONSTRATE SAG'S SUPPORT FOR THE
OBJECTIVES OF OUR PROPOSAL. FURTHER REPEAL OF
DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION AND/OR RELEASE OF DETAINEES
MIGHT BE CITED AS EXAMPLES OF SUCH HELPFUL STEPS.

4. SUGGESTIONS IN CAPE TOWN 882 (JUST RECEIVED) ARE
GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH APPROACH OUTLINED ABOVE.
DEPARTMENT HAS NO PROBLEMS WITH SUBSTANCE OF POINTS
WHICH EMBASSY CAPE TOWN SUGGESTS WE MAKE WITH SAG,
ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT AT THIS POINT
THAT TONE OF OUR APPROACH TAKE INTO ACCOUNT KEY FACT
THAT SAG HAS ACCEPTED CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL. THUS,
CONTACT GROUP SHOULD AVOID TAKING LINE WITH SAG WHICH
WOULD GIVE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE NOT ENTIRELY CONVINCED
THAT SAG IS SINCERE IN ITS ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL.
RATHER, WE SHOULD START FROM ASSUMPTION THAT SAG'S
ACCEPTANCE IS UNCONDITIONAL AND IN GOOD FAITH, AND MOVE
ON FROM THERE TO DISCUSS IN A FRANK MANNER HOW WE CAN
BEST ASSURE SUCCESS IN THIS VENTURE.

5. REGARDING POSSIBILITY THAT SAG WILL RAISE ISSUE
OF WALVIS BAY WITH CONTACT GROUP REPRESENTATIVES,

DEPARTMENT COULD AGREE TO CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS
ALONG LINES PARA 5 OF CAPE TOWN 882.

6. DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT VISIT BY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CAPE TOWN CONTACT GROUP TO NAMIBIA COULD BE USEFUL
IN PRESENTING MESSAGE THAT CONTACT GROUP STANDS BEHIND
ITS PROPOSAL AND INTENDS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH IT. AS
FAR AS TIMING IS CONCERNED, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE
PREFERABLE TO PUT THIS OFF UNTIL AFTER ROUND OF TALKS
WITH SWAPO NOW SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN NEW YORK MAY 5
IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING SWAPO ANY PRETENSE FOR
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ARGUMENT THAT CONTACT GROUP IS TRYING TO UNDERMINE ITS
POSITION IN NAMIBIA.

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Message Attributes

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